

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CU-02 BIB-01 DHA-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /076 W
-----101655Z 021044 /46

R 101545Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5239
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION BERLIN

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FROM AMBASSADOR LODGE'S OFFICE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, VT, HU
SUBJECT: THE VATICAN AND HUNGARY: VISIT OF PARTY SECRETARY KADAR

1. SUMMARY: PRIVATE AUDIENCE GRANTED BY POPE PAUL
TO JANOS KADAR OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY JUNE 9
SYMBOLIZED SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENT IN THE 14-YEAR
OLD VATICAN OSTPOLITIK. AUDIENCE WAS CHARACTERIZED
AS "CROWNING" ACHIEVEMENTS ALREADY REACHED AND
"PROMISING" OF FURTHER ACHIEVEMENTS IN DIALOGUE BETWEEN
HOLY SEE AND THE GOH. POPE PAUL CALLS FOR IMPLEMENTA-
TION OF HELSINGKI FINAL ACT "IN ALL ITS PARTS" AND BY ALL
SIGNATORIES. END SUMMARY

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2. POPE PAUL YESTERDAY, JUNE 9, RECEIVED IN
PRIVATE AUDIENCE JANOS KADAR, FIRST SECRETARY OF
THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE POSU AND MEMBER OF
THE PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC
OF HUNGARY. AMONG THE FOURTEEN PERSONS ACCOMPANYING
HIM WERE MRS. KADAR, FORMIN PUJA, MINISTER OF

EXTERNAL COMMERCE, BIRO, AND DIRECTOR FOR THE OFFICE
OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY KATONA.

3. IN PRIVATE SESSION OF 45 MINUTES, KEY SUBJECTS
DISCUSSED WERE NEXT STEPS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN
CHURCH/STATE AND VATICAN/GOH RELATIONS AND THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. VATICAN
SOURCE TOLD US THAT KADAR PROMISED FURTHER PROGRESS
ON THE ISSUE OF "RELIGIOUS TEACHING" AND RELIGIOUS
ORDERS. SOURCE INDICATED THAT PRINCIPAL PROBLEMS
REGARDING RELIGIOUS TEACHING OCCURRED AT LOCAL LEVELS AND
THAT GOH PROMISED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS TO ELIMINATE
THESE. SAME SOURCE TOLD US THAT WHILE QUESTION OF
ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS MATURED FURTHER, THERE
IS NO "IMMINENT SURPRISE" COMING IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
HE THOUGHT THAT VISIT WAS NOT ONLY SUCCESSFUL IN ITSELF
BUT ALSO SHOWED WAY TO OTHERS IN EASTERN EUROPE FOR
RAPPROCHEMENT WITH HOLY SEE. OTHER KEY POINT IN
DISCUSSION WAS PROSPECTIVE BELGRADE CONFERENCE ON CSCE.

4. POPE PAUL MADE LENGTHY STATEMENT AT END OF
VISIT WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED IN L'OSSERVATORE
ROMANO JUNE 11. SIGNIFICANT POINTS MADE BY POPE
FOLLOW:

A. VISIT IS CHARACTERIZED AS "SINGULAR EVENT OF
SPECIAL IMPORTANCE" WHICH MARKS CULMINATION OF A SLOW
BUT UNINTERRUPTED PROCESS OF CONTACTS OVER A 14-YEAR
PERIOD, "FOLLOWING PROLONGED PERIOD OF ESTRANGEMENT
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AND TENSION WHOSE ECHO HAS NOT YET BEEN ENTIRELY
STILLED."

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FROM AMBASSADOR LODGE'S OFFICE

B. ACKNOWLEDGED DEBT TO POPE JOHN XXIII FOR INITIATING
PROCESS OF RAPPROCHEMENT AND STATES THAT EXPERIENCE
SINCE POPE JOHN CONFIRMED THE VALIDITY THAT THE
"WAY OF A DIALOGUE ON SPECIFIC THINGS," ATTENTIVE TO
THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS AND LEGITIMATE INTERESTS
OF THE CHURCH AND THE FAITHFUL, AT THE SAME TIME, OPEN
TO THE COMPREHENSION OF THE PREOCCUPATIONS OF THE
STATE'S ACTION IN ITS PROPER FIELDS, IS THE WAY TO
RELIGIOUS PEACE AND TO UNITY AND LOYAL COLLABORATION IN
ADVANCEING THE NATION'S COMMON GOOD.

C. THE CHURCH IN HUNGARY AND THE HOLY SEE ARE
"SINCERELY DISPOSED" TO CONTINUE ON THIS ROAD WITH
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CLARITY AND LOYALTY, DULY APPRECIATING THE STEPS WHICH
THE HUNGARIAN STATE HAS TAKEN TO RENDER POSSIBLE THE
PRESENT STATUS OF RELATIONSHIPS.

D. KADAR'S VISIT, SAID THE POPE, WAS IN ITSELF
THE "CROWNING" OF PROGRESS OBTAINED SO FAR AND ALSO
A "SIGN AND A PROMISE" OF NEW PROGRESS TO COME
THROUGH FUTURE RECIPROCAL CONTACTS.

E. POPE ALSO NOTED THAT IT WAS FROM BUDAPEST IN
1969 THAT THE HOLY SEE RECEIVED THE INITIAL CALL FOR
A EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE WHICH LED TO THE
HELSINKI CONFERENCE. THE HOLY SEE, ACCORDING TO
THE POPE, PARTICIPATED IN THE CONFERENCE AND HE
THEREFORE WISHED TO STATE "THE HOPE THAT THE FINAL
ACT OF THE CONFERENCE, WHICH BEARS THE SIGNATURES OF THE

HIGHEST AUTHORITIES OF THE EUROPEAN STATES, SHOULD FIND IN ITS PARTS, AND ON THE PART OF ALL THE SIGNATORY STATES, FULL AND FAITHFUL APPLICATION SO THAT THE HOPES AND THE FAITH OF THE EUROPEAN PEOPLE WOULD NOT BE DELUDED."

5. AT THE END OF THE MEETING KADAR MADE EXTENPORANCEOUS REMARKS IN WHICH HE STATED THAT HE MADE VISIT TO EXTEND "APPRECIATION" FOR THE POPE'S EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF WORLD PEACE AND TO PRESENT HIM WITH A GIFT SYMBOLIZING THE "REVERENCE" FOR THE HOLY SEE AND THE POPE OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE. GIFT CONSISTED OF A CERAMIC PLAGUE DEPICTING THE VIRGIN DONE BY HUNGARIAN ARTIST MARGIT DOVACS. ACCORDING TO KADAR'S REMARKS, THE LATE ARTIST WAS COMFORTED AT DEATH BED WHEN INFORMED THAT ARTIST'S CREATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE POPE.

6. SEPTTEL WILL PROVIDE OUR COMMENTS AND ANALYSIS OF KADAR VISIT IN CONTEXT OF THE VATICAN'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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